CLAIMS

 A process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3thiazole represented by the formula (I):

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by distillation of a crude product thereof, comprising treating the crude product with a lower alcohol before the distillation.

2. The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl -1,3-thiazole according to claim 1, wherein the treatment with the lower alcohol is carried out by adding the lower alcohol to the crude product of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole, followed by stirring.

3. The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl -1,3-thiazole according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the crude product of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole is a reaction mixture or a residue obtained by distilling the solvent from the reaction mixture, wherein the reaction mixture is obtained by reacting a 2-halogenoallyl isothiocyanate represented by the general formula (II):

(wherein Hal represents a chlorine atom or a bromine atom) with a chlorinating agent in the presence of a solvent.

- 4. The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl
 -1,3-thiazole according to claim 3, wherein the crude product
 of 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl-1,3-thiazole is a residue obtained
 by distilling the solvent from the reaction mixture.
 - 5. The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl -1,3-thiazole according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the lower alcohol is methanol.

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6. The process for purifying 2-chloro-5-chloromethyl
-1,3-thiazole according to any one of claims 3 to 5, wherein
Hal is a chlorine atom.